

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: SNickrand@aol.com
Subject: [3265] 49'er Loudness Question
Message-ID: <960828000824_395719182@emout12.mail.aol.com>

My 49'er is operational but lower in volume than I expected. I measured 17 mV on the input (pin 3) of LM380 and 270 mV at the audio output. Does anyone know if this is typical?

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: mvjfm@mvubr.att.com
Subject: [3229] ARRL Convention in MASS.
Message-ID: <199608271222.IAA04764@alig1.att.att.com>

QRP-NE Members:

a volunteer is needed to coordinate the QRP Information booth at the ARRL Convention in Boxboro MASS, on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday - Oct. 4, 5, 6, 1996.

The booth, located in the main hall aisle near the forum halls can be used for QRP related equipment, brochures, handouts, information, Home Brew projects, and displays.

Samples/Copies of 72, membership apps. and past ARCI QQ newsletters will be available as hand outs.

Please contact Jim Fitton, W1FMR 603-898-6188 to volunteer.

I will be away on that Fri. and Sat. at another HR event in NH but will attend QRP forums (esp..NN1G & K1LGQ) on Sunday.

Thanks Jim W1FMR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "John P. Spoonhower" <spoon@kodak.com>
Subject: [3245] autek rf-1 batts
Message-ID: <32234615.185D@kodak.com>

Everyone, my Autek rf-1 analyzer seems to go through

9 v. batteries REALLY QUICKLY. Is this a common condition?
I'm pretty sure that the unit is shut off when I leave
it....is there something going on here that I'm not aware
of???

72, john, kc2du

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [3230] Balloon antennas
Message-ID: <9608271427.AA26463@voder.nsc.com>

Ernie,

I've kept an eye out for large balloons. Party
supplies have them. There are also some mail
order places that have very large balloons. In
the 5' to 10' range. Look in the back of Nuts and
Volts or Popular Science.

The real problem is with the helium. If you've
ever seen some party balloons the day after,
you'll know that some balloons don't hold
helium very well. Something about the porosity
of the rubber vs. the size of the helium molecule.

I've also seen some balloons react with the helium
and break down. One I had, popped and the inside
was sticky and mushy.

Mylar balloons do not have this problem and will
hold the helium well. However, a decent sized
mylar balloon will cost in \$20 range. Too much
for an experiment/one-time deal.

That's why I felt lucky to get that 18"er for \$1.
Probably the best bet there would be to get 3 or 4
at that price and raise a 24ga to 28ga wire stiffly.

=====
7.3 de Michael AA0UB miker@cc.com michael@frii.com
 http://www.frii.com/~michael
 QRP-L #126 Norcal #857 CQC #180
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: rflight@VNET.IBM.COM
Subject: [3246] Ben Franklin, Kites, and Balloons
Message-ID: <199608271902.PAA58292@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

We are all just one big happy family! It must be true.... I worry so about you all. So.... just a little bit of healthy paranoia surfaces as I see threads like the huge helium filled mylar balloons as supports for killer verticals.

Pursue these antennas with great care... do lotsa research on lightning rods relating to how and why they work. It's a little known fact that Seinfeld's Kramer used to be a field day superstar :-)... only kidding, but he no doubt has made contact with an electron or two along the road to stardom:-)

PLEASE be very very careful... I so dread having to QRT for 60 seconds in your honor during the next contest. Keep in mind that some of the readers on this list are new to radio as a technology, and lack important experience. We can sometimes take for granted that our enthusiasm spreads harmlessly. When we get excited about high energy power sources like automobile batteries, when we start discuss recycling old microwave ovens as potential ham transmitters, and when we start reaching to the clouds with our antenna systems for that added decibel of performance, we need to keep the safety of our audience in check.

A friendly "be careful when you do this", or "safety first" as an opening disclaimer should alert the uninformed to ask why before he/she proceeds.

My soapbox is now empty... please continue, and have fun... fun... fun...

30, 72, es 73 de N3GO

Gary E. O'Neil
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//// / * / / / //// //// * //// //// / * //// //// ////

Only I am capable of offering such absurdities, and must assume all credit for my opinions and suggestions. They are mine and mine alone. My employer will graciously disavow any knowledge of my existence and laugh heartily at the mere suggestion of such a preposterous notion.

//// / * / / / //// //// * //// //// / * //// //// ////

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Richard Wilkerson <richqrp@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [3239] camping
Message-ID: <3222D474.55E3@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

Hello gang...

Went camping the last three days (my new day's off) tried to hook up with Joe KC7NEV who was also camping high in the hills in Az. Took my trusty NW8020 set up for 40 mtrs. Did not hook up with Joe but did get into Wa. and Idaho. I have not taken my IC 737 ever since I got this rig. Using my hustler resonator for 40 on top of my 30 ft. 5th wheel(I know this is not really camping)but the little NW8020 works just great. Funny thing though, the bands are not that good but seems lately you can hook up with just about anyone you hear, or at least that's the way it was the last few day's.

73's/72's rich wd6fdd

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: tdrumm@sparc.isl.net (Tony Drumm)
Subject: [3218] Changing ISPs
Message-ID: <199608270428.XAA11043@sparc.isl.net>

I'm in the process of changing ISPs. My new address is aa0sm@ibm.net (or, TonyDrumm@ibm.net).

I've sent in an unsubscribe from this id and a subscribe from the new one but I don't know that it has worked. Can one of the list-masters check it out for me? Want to keep my AA0SM QRP-L # and all!

72.

Tony Drumm
Rochester, MN
internet: tdrumm@isl.net
Packet: aa0sm@wd0gnk.#semn.mn.usa.na

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Bowes, Fr. Bruce" <GBB1@MUSICB.MARIST.EDU>

Subject: [3241] CQ Rob Capon
Message-ID: <27AUG96.15413163.0011.MUSIC@MARISTB.MARIST.EDU>

Rob,
Preston Douglas told me that you 'wrote the instructions' for the KC-1 for use in the OHR 400. He also told me to contact you.
I am trying to decide whether or not to use the Kc-1 or KC-2 and am leaning towards the 1. I do have a question about the jumpers. Once they are set up do they have to be changed each time you change bands? Having read the description in QRP Quarterly it was not clear.
I would also be interested in your thoughts pro and con abt the 2 vs 1.
Thanks alot.
Fr Bowes KB2TRF

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: CQC@aol.com
Subject: [3251] CQC QSO PARTY INFO
Message-ID: <960827165946_395364682@emout10.mail.aol.com>

QRP-L Gang:

Tnx to all who participated. The band condx sure were lousy. I was hoping to make 80-100 contacts and only made 28! Sure heard a lot of AA7QU and K5ZTY from here. I hope all or most of you got to work KB0UCQ, the club call, for the 1,000 point bonus. I sure missed hearing the east coast stations.

Scoring: QSO points (total all bands) X SPCs (total all bands) X Names (one per letter only. Joe, John and Jane only count as one name. One list for all bands combined, not per band) + bonus, if worked.

Example: W3TKS 30 pts. X 5 SPC X 5 names (letters) = 750 pts. (no bonus).

Your log can be e-mailed to: EJim@aol.com (KGOPP) the contest chairman or sent to:

Jim Pope KGOPP
CQC Contest Chm.
Box 31575
Aurora, CO 80041-0575

Must be postmarked by September 25, 1996.

WOHEP results:

28 QSOs 131 pts. X 17 SPC X 11 names + 1,000 bonus = 25, 497 pts.

Used IC-730 at 5 watts out to a new G5RV up 22 ft. It was my first use of a keyboard. After I got the hang of linking memories, it was great. Gave time for manual logging, cappuccino sipping, etc. With only 28 QSOs in 6 hours there was a lot of time for all kinds of things!

Do any of you listen to Amateur Radio Today on HCJB at 0530Z Wednesday evenings on 9.745 MHz? Some interesting topics.

72,

Rich WOHEP

CQC #1

"Every QRP homebrewer knows that even though you can't always see it, smoke happens."

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [3236] Epiphyte2
Message-ID: <199608271702.SAA23047@mail.enterprise.net>

Someone gave me info of where to find the info on the mods to the original board. I can't find the file, probably lost it. Can you tell me where to find it in the archives or other site?

Cheers.

--

Frank G3YCC

Ham Radio QRP Web Page:

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>
Subject: [3243] FAX to file conversion...
Message-ID: <32234344.61C@eee.org>

Hi All:

While I know this is not a QRP related subject, I need a little help and this is the place I go for answers.

I've got a huge load of articles on QRP and related ham info. I've heard about the use of a FAX machine as a page scanner and wonder how this is accomplished. I'm swamped by the large amount of paper copy and would like to transfer this to disc by way of FAX.

Sorry for the bandwidth and will share any info upon request that I receive.

72, John-N5INZ/6

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Frank G3YCC" <g3ycc@enterprise.net>
Subject: [3252] Ferric Chloride.
Message-ID: <199608272205.XAA20059@mail.enterprise.net>

Thanks to Greg ZL1VGC, my xyl is still speaking to me! Having mentioned acquiring FC stains on a nice new shirt, I sought a remedy. Here is is: soak the offending part in a solution of citric acid, say 2-3 teaspoons in half a cup of warm water. It works, although more than one application may be needed.

You haven't had that bother? You are either (a) lucky (b) not doing your own PCB's (c) not married, or any combination of the three.

I wish you well.

--

Frank G3YCC
Ham Radio QRP Web Page:
<http://homepages.enterprise.net/g3ycc/>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: buhyoff@vt.edu (Greg Buhyoff)
Subject: [3227] FS: Keys -- unusual
Message-ID: <v01540b01ae4889ea1052@[128.173.78.57]>

I have two straight keys for sale. They are both SUPERB for portable operation.

1) Schurr Mini -- all brushed brass with hardwood knob. Made in Germany. 2.75" x 1.50" x 1.75" in size. Super precise action and gorgeous workmanship. Extremely small and light weight with excellent stability. Just the ticket for camera-bag sized stations. One very small scratch on top and one on the underside (bottom) of the key. This key cost \$150 new. They are now selling for \$170 from Universal Radio. I will ship this key via UPS for \$70.

2) This is an unusual key, US Army Vietnam era thigh key. It is brand new,

never used. I removed it from it's original packing bag but it was never put into service. It is a thigh key, with attached velcro straps. All black in color. Made from some sort of very high impact "plastic" or composite (reminds me of the stocks on M-16's). Tension and gap are adjustable. Contacts appear to be phosphor-bronze. It weighs next to nothing. It is very roughly 5 inches by 2.5 inches in size. Everything design feature of the key is oriented to withstanding abuse in a wet or high humidity environment. Excellent action. This one has become a favorite of mine for mountain topping and travel. You can set up anywhere and strap the key to your thigh(or anywhere else for that matter). It has a coiled shielded cable attached (can be removed via screws) which is terminated in the standard Army radio four pin connector. Made by Electrovoice. I love this key's functionality.. I will ship this via UPS for \$50.

I am selling these since both of these keys are extras.

If interested, please contact me at Buhyoff@vt.edu.

72, Greg KN4FR

=====
Greg Buhyoff
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E-mail: Buhyoff@vt.edu

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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "John P. Spoonhower" <spoon@kodak.com>
Subject: [3229] FS: Norcal 40 original price lowered
Message-ID: <3222EBD0.21A2@kodak.com>

Everyone, I have a perfect condition Norcal 40 for sale, complete with manual, and silk-screened panels. works great!. I'm selling because I just want to fund some new construction. \$100 with shipping included in the continental US.
72, john, kc2du

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [3229] GATE 2 SOURCE
Message-ID: <9607278411.AA841157472@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Hi All:

Sorry, none QRP question here -

Does anyone know of a good UP TO DATE source for all open 1x2 2x1 calls available for the GATE 2 frenzy??

I know I could go to the U of A server and do this manually, but I'm sure somebody, somewhere has a database compiled.

I'd like to get an up to the minute listing to see if some of my choices were gobbled up in Gate 1 or are otherwise unavailable.

Thanks very much. You folks are the best!

73 de Dave AC5GY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [3252] Grad skool
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960827160336.32215A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

There are a LOT of QRP-L members on here that have advanced degrees. I address this message to you kind folk.

I am 39 years old. I have 7, and 4.9 year old daughters.

Today I just dropped over one-large on tuition to the university.

I have to take 17 classes to complete an MBA in Information Systems. I may not get out until I'm 44 years old.

Comments and encouragement from others that have found themselves in this position are deeply appreciated.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [3235] Help- Extra call change?
Message-ID: <960827125045_466432765@emout12.mail.aol.com>

Could someone tell me what do do about changing my callsign? I am an Extra. I'm hearing a lot about Gate Two opening. I'm not an ARRL member and don't subscribe to any ham magazines at this time.

How do I get my 610V?

Where do I get lists of Extra call signs available to me?

Thanks for reading.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [3220] Info on HW-7 mods available...
Message-ID: <960827001423_188486423@emout10.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,
I've been using and refining the mods to my HW7. It has been alot of fun resurrecting this little radio from the junk heap!!
Its got: Full break-in, Diode based T/R switch (no relay),

nice sidetone, RIT and plenty of audio!

The details are available via e-mail - just send me a short note and I will "reply" back with attachments. These mods are not "Heathkit" ready. I figure only really nutsy-boltsy types will understand what I did but it is available to all regardless of your mind reading skill level.

All of you that requested rev 0 rcvr boards should getting them one day soon via snail mail. Please let me know how you do with them. I would be a real "kick" to see a few more hw7's re-vived!

73, Randy WJ4P

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: AlK0FRP@aol.com
Subject: [3221] KB0UCQ report for CQC QSO Party
Message-ID: <960827013115_188531812@emout09.mail.aol.com>

CQC CQ QSO Party participants

Glad to see the great turn out for CQC summer QSO party even though the condx were very poor.

Remember all of you that wrkd me using the club call KB0UCQ add 1000 pts to the end of you scores.

Total 109 Q's 77 non 22 members

46 SPC

19 names no Zeke's or Xaviars

about 388,000 pts but remember I can't win so send in those reports.

worked over 30 states and Bob on V01, Cam in HP1, PY2 and a FY.

This is about half of the spring QSO Party Q's so the condx were very poor.

I like the spring QSO party later start to utilize 40 and 80 m more. If 15 and 10 were in thats a different story. If you are a non-member send a SASE in and get the results. The Low Down will have the results in the next issue. Did make one Q on 15m that was W5NN other wise dead.

Nice to wrk the new members CQC #'s over 300.

Great job and great turn out in the low of low's on the bands.

Al K0FRP

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: buhyoff@vt.edu (Greg Buhyoff)
Subject: [3228] Keys -- unusual ****SOLD****
Message-ID: <v01540b05ae489650fa52@[128.173.78.57]>

Both keys (the Schurr mini key and the Vietnam era thigh key) sold within a few minutes of posting.

Thanks,

Greg KN4FR

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Greg Buhyoff
Julian Cheatham Professor
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Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Office Phone: 540-231-5148
Fax: 540-231-3698
E-mail: Buhyoff@vt.edu

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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Floyd Soo, KF8AT" <hires@rust.net>
Subject: [3248] Kites, Balloons and Antennas!
Message-ID: <3223782A.3F73@rust.net>

I just wish to echo Gary's thoughts about using kites and balloons to support antennas! Experimentation has lead to a great many discoveries and solutions to problems. Sometimes, though, unforeseen problems may arise. This is what Gary is talking about! For those of you that may wish to experiment with these sorts of antennas...BE CAREFUL! Lotsa static can build up on long wires up in the air. I don't have to mention the greatest static discharge of all! I have helped with both types of supports for wires high in the air, and I will say again...BE CAREFUL, HAVE FUN! (or was it "Don't Worry, Be Happy...?")

72,
Floyd, KF8AT
QRP-L #392

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: nwqrp@scn.org (SCN User)
Subject: [3224] Live Shortwave on the WEB!
Message-ID: <199608270712.AAA02214@scn.org>

This may be old news, gang, but I found a link to live shortwave that you can tune yourself via a "form". Yes, tune into your favorite QRP net over the WEB!

You need a program that can read .au files, and a web browser.
Here is the URL:

<http://www.chilton.com/scripts/radio/R8-receiver>

I just tried it and it works great ... but only record a few seconds.
Fun, anyway. :-)

--Brian, KV9X

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      i                      NorthWest QRP Club
--=[scn]=--                  -----
      )|(                      nwqrp@scn.org      --0---/\--
      /_|\_                  http://www.scn.org/IP/nwqrp  /^\^\/ ^^\  
                                     --NW QRP--
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [3219] Power-Line Noise Eliminated
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960826203222.1164B-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Gang,
I've had a constant background of power-line noise for many months.
Almost grew to accept it!

The other day, while walking my dog, I noticed an arcing sound. (I'm a little sensitive to that noise, having worked with high-voltage circuits for quit a few years...modulators, pulse transformers, etc.) I looked around and there was a power pole! I cocked my best ear & turned my head, zeroing in on the sound. Turned out it was coming from the top of the pole where 3 power-factor-correction capacitors and 4 little transformers were mounted! Wow! Corona, in spades. Let's see now, about 2 blocks from

my house...could it be??? Naww. Maybe? Well, I resolved to call P.G.&E. the next morning.

I called the emergency number & said it wasn't a real emergency, but "one of your poles has a loud arcing sound..." Also told them I was an Engineer.

ONE DAY LATER THE NOISE WAS G O N E !

Now, other than occasional buzzes, all I hear on 80m is atmospheric noise! Happy Days! My noise floor dropped about 8dB. The moral is: If you have power-line noise, just walk around your neighborhood and listen for corona (arcing noise). If you can identify the offending pole (as I did) it may help a LOT when you call the power company.

72, Dave, W6EMD

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)
Subject: [3254] RE; Balloon Antennas
Message-ID: <19960827.190459.4719.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

Greetings from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp...FN13ac

I read with interest the comment about Helium turning the insides of a Latex balloon to a gooey mess. Seeing that Helium is an inert gas, and doesn't combine chemically with anything, the most probable cause for the balloon's deterioration would be the lubrication in the pressurization system used to fill the bottle.

When I was in the Navy back in the 70's, there were two grades of Helium on the tender, Diving Grade (Water-pumped, Oil-free) and Welding Grade (Oil-pumped). The Diving Grade was used in Heli-Ox breathing mixtures for deep/long-duration dives, and the Welding Grade was used for Heliarc welding (known as either TIG or GTAW welding). The types of welds, especially on high-alloy steel, were very sensitive to hydrogen contamination, hence the oil-pumped version, and the divers were very sensitive to hydrocarbons in their breathing mixtures, especially at 5 - 15 atmospheres (70 - 210 PSI).

The oil-pumped Helium also worked very nicely to fill & launch garbage bags to produce UFO reports in S.E. Connecticut, and launch C-Band and X-Band radar corner reflectors to give the Operational Specialists in CIC something to see when underway!

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L #582
Trustee, KB2YTW/B 10 Mtr Beacon (28.2860 MHz)

wb2vuo@juno.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [3247] RESULTS:GATE 2 SOURCES
Message-ID: <9607278411.AA841180512@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Gang:

Earlier today, I asked about finding some up to the minute sources for unused 1x2 and 2x1 calls.

Well, no sources for 2x1 calls yet, but I did receive 2 sources for 1x2 calls. These are very nice URL's and have other neat stuff as well.

1. <http://www.4w.com/ham/ka9fox/>
go to his contest info and the avail. vanity calls as of 8/9/96 are listed per region.

2. <http://www.frii.com/~michael>

Hope this helps with your vanity "shopping list".

I'd still like to find some source with avail. 2x1 calls, as I think these are neat.

Thanks & 73,

Dave AC5GY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: talljazz@teleport.com (Dan Presley)
Subject: [3237] RF Probe
Message-ID: <v01530500ae48d885789e@[206.163.123.73]>

Guys-Thanks for the suggestions & advice on the RF probe subject; as it turned out, my local surplus joint had some junk Heath scope probes complete w/coax that were perfect for the job-plenty of room to stuff in

the parts. It might be worth archiving the suggestions I recieved as they're good; can someone easily explain to me how to send these to the list archives? Remember, I'm fairly computer illiterate, and I have a Mac!
Dan N7CQR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@mail.telis.org>
Subject: [3259] September NorCal QRP Club Meeting
Message-ID: <32234EE7.6D18@telis.org>

The regular September meeting of the NorCal QRP Club will be this Sunday, Sept. 1 at the famous "California Burger" restaurant off the Santa Rita exit on I580 West of Livermore. The meeting will begin about 10:30 and end when everyone leaves. I use the term meeting in its loosest way, as we don't have any type of formal meeting, just a get together for QRPers where we can show and tell about our latest project, and share QRP information and help. Please join us.

Alas, I really messed up. I promised my wife that we would go camping with friends this weekend in the Sierras. I thought the NorCal meeting was next weekend. Just goes to show you what happens when you don't pay close enough attention. Anyway, I will be in the Sierras, operating my Sierra, while all of you are enjoying the meeting. There is an old saying that all "happily" married hams know, "Discretion is the better part of valor", or something to that effect. Therefore, I shall chose to be discrete, not brave (nor foolish). 72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [3232] Sun's poles flip?
Message-ID: <9608271503.AA27915@voder.nsc.com>

This may or may not be directly related to QRP.

There is a rumor that the sun is going to flip it's poles over the next 4 years.

Is it true?
Will it affect propogation?
If so, how?
Should I change the orientation of my antennas?

Will life as we know it continue?
Can I make a killing in re-oriented SPF?

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7.3 de Michael AA0UB      miker@cc.com      michael@frii.com
      http://www.frii.com/~michael
      QRP-L #126      Norcal #857      CQC #180
=====
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [3238] T2FD
Message-ID: <9608271753.AA03353@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

The first Countryman articles appeared in CQ in 1948 (Nov/Dec timeframe) with follow-up articles in 1949. There was also at least one article (write-up) in the novice column in CQ, then conducted by Don Stoner, W6TNS, in 1956-57. The antenna as Jay described is basically a folded dipole with a non-inductive load resistor in the top wire. The approximate value of that resistor was 900 ohms, and the open-wire feed was constructed for that value. Currently, the B & W 3-30 broadband dipole (90 ft long) is the commercial version of that design, with a balun allowing use of coax. If one compared (I have) the 3-30 antenna with a ladder line fed dipole, the dipole would be the better performer. The advantage to the B & W was the broadband operation, with coax feed, with an estimated SWR of 2:1 or less. Altho, the SWR was approximately 2.5:1 in the 12 - 13.5 Mhz range. We have used a lot of them from the states to various jungle locations and they do work pretty well - well enough that the line flatener in most of the portable hf rigs will match well. The AC 1.8-30 also works well. That antenna is a small version of the vertical half-rhombic antenna shown in the old Army TM-11-666. The antenna shows no gain at all until it is used in the upper ranges of 10 meters. The bottom of the delta is a counterpoise wire and it is essential, with the proper termination for good operation. If the exact article information is desired, drop me an E-mail and I will see if I can locate the exact reference information. 72/73 Ray

--

Ray Colbert, W5XE/V31XE, El Paso, Tx

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Rogerio Gonzaga <gonzaga@med.up.pt>
Subject: [3226] T2FD Antenna
Message-ID: <198506271003.MAA27422@hipocrates.med.up.pt>

Hi, Bill (K3AS), Dave (W0CH), and all the guys,

About the T2FD antenna discussion, it is, I believe, a quite popular aerial in the land-based Portuguese Navy Stations. A similar aerial is manufactured by Yaesu under the name of YA-30, I think it is the very same antenna, with a small difference of the Navy stations, in that it apparently has a 12:1 Balun at its feeding point, enabling to feed it with 50 ohm coax. I suppose it is not directly intended for ham use, so it can have to be specifically ordered in an Yaesu dealer. I am aware of this because indeed I own one and use it as a secondary antenna, and have my opinion about it.

The accompanying literature is very scarce, and the type of balun (12:1) and the loading resistor (600 ohm) have been deducted by me after some research, as they are not stated on the leaflet. It is basically an aperiodic antenna pretending to cover 2 to 30 MHz with less than 1:3 SWR in any frequency and less than 1:2 under the 17 MHz, without the help of any ATU. I have been using it for a while, and I can confirm that it accomplishes the SWR specifications. In the higher frequencies (lets say, over 7 MHz) it performs quite nicely, but performance seems to drop in lower frequencies (although the SWR drops as well, in the 80 and the 160 meters being virtually 1:1). It is rated to 150 W PEP (in my search I found that the loading resistor should be able to dissipate half the transmitting power, so I think it is probably rated to 50 to 75 watts). My antenna measures about 25 meters which, according to my search, should allow its use until the 75 meters band (it should be supposed to have one third of the higher working wavelength). This could explain why I am not very happy with it on the 160 meters.

Mine is mounted as a flat top at about 12 meters high, and it is used as a secondary antenna as I have an homemade FD4-type Windom hanging as an inverted-V at 18 meters AGL (with an huge 6:1 brand-new surplus military balun) and a Marconi, also slooping to 18 meters, for the top-band, and those perform obviously much better (the higher the better...); however, the T2FD performs quite nicely (specially in the higher bands), and has the advantage to be always acceptably tuned for a fast response, lowering the SWR to 1:1 being possible with an ATU for more prolonged working periods.

Sorry by the bandwith, and I hope the information is usefull. The usual disclaims (I have no interest in Yaesu, and so on), and best 72/73 de

Roger, CT1ETT

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: n7mfb@juno.com (Bill Todd)
Subject: [3261] Temp. address for N7MFB
Message-ID: <19960827.181254.5239.2.n7mfb@juno.com>

Hi Gang -

My main computer is being repaired up in the "Big City", so for the time being I'm using a backup 386 for E-Mail. This ancient artifact only has a 40 meg HD (remember when THAT was plenty?).
Can't even get on the WWW cuz the programs take up too much space.
Oh well, my main box should be back in a week or two. Until then, please direct any mail to: n7mfb@juno.com

Re. COLO Test: I made 12 QSO's during the Colo test and could only work it for a few hours. The better half had me repainting window frames (what joy). The contacts were;
W0HEP, KB0UCQ, N0IBT, W5NN, K0LWV, WD5ICQ, K5ZTY, WA1YIA, AC5AM, WA6EIW, K5ON, KK6MC/5.

CUL - Bill
N7MFB

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [3223] Thanks for the PIE
Message-ID: <19960826.225852.7695.2.kb0rol@juno.com>

Paul,

Thank you for the QRP-L Pie. It was great.

Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club #170, QRP-L # , ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: k5rov@juno.com (JAMES PARSONS)
Subject: [3225] WANTED: TEN TEC SCOUT
Message-ID: <19960826.210717.4679.0.k5rov@juno.com>

I am looking for a Ten tec Scout, used, if I can get one at a fair price.
Retired, and cheap, ya know!

Jim-K5ROV

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: cooper@gmpvt.com (Tom Cooper)
Subject: [3249] re:Autek RF-1 batteries
Message-ID: <199608272001.QAA12743@web.gmpvt.com>

My RF-1 also eats batteries, so KC2DU and I should get together
and make a bulk purchase, I guess.

72,

Tom WA1GUV

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [3262] re:Autek RF-1 batteries
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.960827223744.22464E-1000000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

On Tue, 27 Aug 1996, Tom Cooper wrote:

> My RF-1 also eats batteries, so KC2DU and I should get together
> and make a bulk purchase, I guess.

>

> 72,

>

> Tom WA1GUV

>

Mine is still on the first battery and it has had extensive use over the
last 1.5 years. Might compare current drain against Autek specifications
(with both power on and power off).

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [3250] RE: auttek rf-1 batts
Message-ID: <960827155754.2020ccd8@carib.vf.mmc.com>

John, you wrote:

>Everyone, my Auttek rf-1 analyzer seems to go through
>9 v. batteries REALLY QUICKLY. Is this a common condition?
>I'm pretty sure that the unit is shut off when I leave
>it....is there something going on here that I'm not aware
>of???
>72, john, kc2du

I guess I'm lucky I generally *don't* have your problem. At first I did, until I realized that when I stored mine, I didn't protect it well enough. I just put it in a bag 'o stuff and the other stuff pressed against the power switch, turning it on!

Recently I've taken to merely keeping it in the original shipping box. That keeps it from being inadvertently turned on.

I've had thoughts, too of hacking out a protective "clam-shell" made of foam rubber. One piece would be cut out to fit over the bottom and the other to fit over the top, with an area cut out to clear the power switch to prevent accidental power-ons.

I recall some mention on this list within the last year about other folks experiencing some very poor battery life. Either the battery holder was defective or there was some metalwork inside the case that accidentally shorted out.

If no one else responds to your query, you might do a search of the qrp-1 archives on the keyword "Auttek" to check it out. Or, if the unit is in warranty, give Auttek a call.

Goos luck and 72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

work: jeverhart@cayman.vf.mmc.com
home: n2cx@voicenet.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [3258] Re: autek rf-1 batts
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960828001359.008af418@public.compuserve.com>

Hi John,

You may want to give Autek a call as the problem that Joe N2CX mentioned was a factory problem of one of the switches hitting a metal piece when the case was sandwiched on. The factory had a fix for it - so a call might not hurt.

Good luck let us know what you hear since I also have the Autek RF-1

PS: (This is a PS: before a PS is needed) - Does anyone know how accurate the inductance readings are on the RF-1. I was into winding toroids the other day for some new band modules for my Wilderness Sierra and I noticed I kept measuring a little high across the board for all toroids - and that is after subtracting the "shorted" inductances measurement out and also it was measured at the freq the toroid would be used at. For the life of me I just can't understand those Autek instructions - need one of those Yellow Books - Reading Inductance on Toroids Using an Autek RF-1 For Dummies" :^)

Cheers 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 15:01 8/27/96 -0400, you wrote:

>Everyone, my Autek rf-1 analyzer seems to go through
>9 v. batteries REALLY QUICKLY. Is this a common condition?
>I'm pretty sure that the unit is shut off when I leave
>it....is there something going on here that I'm not aware
>of???
>72, john, kc2du
>
>

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [3251] Re: Ben Franklin, Kites, and Balloons
Message-ID: <9608272004.AA16365@voder.nsc.com>

Gary is right. If you decide to raise a wire using a balloon keep in mind that metal in the air is a static electricity collector.

Someone correct me: for each 100' of altitude you get 300 volts of static build-up.

For a balloon carrying a wire up 100', the best thing is to tie the bottom of the wire directly to ground through a high value resistor (1K?) to bleed off static build-up.

Also remember that should the wire break, the balloon will carry the remainder of that wire aloft and will eventually come down when the balloon bursts or loses its helium. When that happens, the wire might cause unforeseen damage. It could drape across some high voltage wires, or wrap around the neck of a politician. Use caution.

As a disclaimer, my balloon antenna out the hotel window was on a 33' wire. The wire was either 24ga or 30ga (I used two different kinds). The single balloon just barely kept the wire up so I was certain that no great strain was on the wire. Since the wire was short I wasn't concerned with static build-up.

Have fun but think safety first.

```
=====
7.3 de Michael AA0UB      miker@cc.com      michael@frii.com
      http://www.frii.com/~michael
      QRP-L #126      Norcal #857      CQC #180
=====
```

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: chuckolson@juno.com (Chuck Olson)
Subject: [3231] Re: C-W Crystal out of business
Message-ID: <19960827.093418.4807.0.chuckolson@juno.com>

On Mon, 26 Aug 1996 22:57:20 -0700 (PDT) Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu> writes:

>CW Crystals has closed it doors. This was a team of Bob and

Ron -

I just HATE it when a Ham Radio company of any size closes its doors - does Bob mention in his message about any efforts to sell the company to others? This may sound ghoulish but C-W Crystals might be a good business opportunity for someone.

Best Regards,

Chuck
WB9KZY
Washington Island, WI

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3222] RE: Hallicrafters Crystals???
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960826225026.13851A-1000000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Mon, 26 Aug 1996, William K Hibbert wrote:

>
>
> The company you are looking for is: CW Crystal
> Marshfield. MO 65706
>

Hi Gang,

I just received a message from CW Crystals that was sent to me by K4BNI.

CW Crystals has closed its doors. This was a team of Bob and Ruth. Let me quote the first sentence of the message:

"Production at C-W Crystals has ended with the sudden death of my wife Ruth, a vital part of the C-W Crystal team of Bob & Ruth."

It is a nice history of the company and a very sad ending. They had been married 55 years. Bob is now 83.

The last sentence is:

"Enclosed is your order and remittance for information or order with the hope its return has not inconvenienced you greatly."

cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: jim seeber <kw3u@warwick.net>
Subject: [3233] Re: Hallicrafters Crystals???
Message-ID: <3223349B.224B@warwick.net>

Nick Franco wrote:

>
> Hi Club Friends,
>
> I have an acquaintance who I chat with on 40m CW who is working on a
> couple of Hallicrafters and is looking for those huge crystals. The
> only crystal place I know of is Jans in Florida. He knows of them and
> said they're expensive. I told him about our qrp-l group here and if
> anyone knows where to get these FT-234 (or something like that) crystals
> you all would. I've been trying to get him interested in qrp and kit
> building since he likes dabbling and fixing HF gear. That's about as
> close of a link to qrp I can get this message, sorry :-). Anyway, if any
> of you have information I could pass along to him, would you please drop
> me an email.
>
> Sorry to the rest of the group for this non-qrp message.
>
> 72
> Nick
>
> *****
> Nick Franco - <http://www.rhichome.bnl.gov/People/franco/>
> Brookhaven National Laboratory - RHIC Project
> tel: (516) 344-5467 <>< Ham Call: KF2PH
> fax: (516) 344-3674 QRP-NE # 349 QRP-L # 13in the classified
section of qst mag. i think there is
one or two ads every month for what you need.
CW crystals and another one. good luck,
I use mine or would donate them.. 72/73 Jim kw3u

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996

From: herr@ridgecrest.ca.us (Michael Herr)
Subject: [3263] Re:Homebrew paddles
Message-ID: <v01530501ae4995d2c20e@[199.120.150.145]>

>Pair of straight keys mounted back-to-back are a real smooth idea.
>Piece of wood and some type of bracket to mount them. If you are
>an "adjustment nut" these will provide hours of fun. Remove the
>knobs from the keys and replace with a piece of plastic, poker chip,
>or thick pc board shaped to fit. My favorite is a guitar pick.

I've ben using ack to back straight keys for several years now, just about
the best I've used, certainly from a cost point of view! I still use the
original knobs, just bent a strong s shape in the key arm to place them
close together.

72 Mike

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: duane <duane@flinet.com>
Subject: [3264] Re: Kites, Balloons and Antennas!
Message-ID: <3223B6B0.1C7F@flinet.com>

Floyd Soo, KF8AT wrote:

>
> I just wish to echo Gary's thoughts about using kites and balloons to
> support antennas! Experimentation has lead to a great many discoveries
> and solutions to problems. Sometimes, though, unforeseen problems may
> arise. This is what Gary is talking about! For those of you that may
> wish to experiment with these sorts of antennas...BE CAREFUL! Lotsa
> static can build up on long wires up in the air. I don't have to mention
> the greatest static discharge of all! I have helped with both types of
> supports for wires high in the air, and I will say again...BE CAREFUL,
> HAVE FUN! (or was it "Don't Worry, Be Happy...?")
>
> 72,
> Floyd, KF8AT
> QRP-L #392

Hi All we all know what lighting can do. But please tell me is there
anything special one should do when using a ballon to fly an antenna. Is
there a way to discharge the static electrice safely ? would a small
gauge wire help (#20) how about a spark plug hooked to the wire to bleed
off the static. I dont know I've never done this but it does sound like
fun on a clear day.

duane

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Dale LeDoux <dledoux@laci.net>
Subject: [3264] Re: Kites, Balloons and Antennas!
Message-ID: <199608271644.LAA08282@lac1.laci.net>

At 23:02 8/27/96 -0400, you wrote:

>Floyd Soo, KF8AT wrote:

>>

>> I just wish to echo Gary's thoughts about using kites and balloons to
>> support antennas! Experimentation has lead to a great many discoveries
>> and solutions to problems. Sometimes, though, unforeseen problems may
>> arise. This is what Gary is talking about! For those of you that may
>> wish to experiment with these sorts of antennas...BE CAREFUL! Lotsa
>> static can build up on long wires up in the air. I don't have to mention
>> the greatest static discharge of all! I have helped with both types of
>> supports for wires high in the air, and I will say again...BE CAREFUL,
>> HAVE FUN! (or was it "Don't Worry, Be Happy...?")

>>

>> 72,

>> Floyd, KF8AT

>> QRP-L #392

>

>Hi All we all know what lighting can do. But please tell me is there
>anything special one should do when using a ballon to fly an antenna. Is
>there a way to discharge the static electrice safely ? would a small
>gauge wire help (#20) how about a spark plug hooked to the wire to bleed
>off the static. I dont know I've never done this but it does sound like
>fun on a clear day.

>duane

>

Not necesssarily talking qrp, more like MEGAWATTS, but I frequently have to work in hihg voltage (230KV) utility transmission substations. Here, ungrounded metallic objects can be capacitively or inductively coupled to energized equipment and reach voltages high enough to arc and maintain a one-half-inch spark. Needless to say, this voltage is disconcerting to a testing technician if it is unexpected, but we regularly survive this. The trick for personnel is to grab those deenergized but charged objects decisively. For some items of test equipment, however, we have found a semiconductive (electrical power jargon for high resistance, as opposed to insulating) rubber ribbon from the test lead to ground will bleed off the high voltages keeping them at a managable level.

Translating that into the balloon-launched QRP antenna, I concur with grounding the lower end of the antenna to a good ground such as a ground rod or the mythological water pipe with a resistor in the kilohm range. This

resistor will not substantially affect the RF activity but will bleed off any static charges as they build.

BE advised (old military term) however, that this is a fair-weather antenna that should be hauled down at the first sign of darkening cloud. Lightning-level voltages will ignore this measly little resistor to vaporize your rig, your table, you, and such bystanders as may be around.

Dale LeDoux KD5QI
Bath Electrical Systems
480 volts to 230 KV
Sulphur, LA

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: bob.roach@sourcebbs.com (BOB ROACH)
Subject: [3240] RE: Power-Line Noise Eli
Message-ID: <8C7333A.0001040FFD.uuout@sourcebbs.com>

DDM>-Now, other than occasional buzzes, all I hear on 80m is atmospheric noise!
>-Happy Days! My noise floor dropped about 8dB. The moral is: If you have
>-power-line noise, just walk around your neighborhood and listen for corona
>-(arcing noise). If you can identify the offending pole (as I did) it may
>-help a LOT when you call the power company.

Hi Guys,

My dad worked for a power company for many years and I remember him talking about looking for line noise and have also seen local utilities out looking. They use a DC to Daylight type reciever and a small handheld directional antenna.

Although they appreciate it if you can find the problem and provide a pole number they will come out and search themselves if you call. As with everything else try to be sure that what you have is line noise and not some other form of interference so you don't become the little boy who cried wolf.

Usually you are doing them a favor since corona discharge can be the first sign of a potential problem and is a waste of electricity that could otherwise be sold.

73 de KE4QOK
Bob

* SLMR 2.1a * Madness takes it's toll...Please have exact change.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [3257] Re: Power-Line Noise Eliminated
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960828001352.008abf50@public.compuserult.nf.ca>

Dave,

Let's give credit where credit is due - it was your "loyal" dog that got you out for the walk, that made you listen up when your "loyal" dog made his "stop" and it was your "loyal" dog that probably made you look towards the pole for the noise (you know those dogs got keen ears).

So treat that dog of yours to a couple walks a day - as a matter of fact bring him over to my "noisy" neighborhood - hi.

Cheers 73/72 Bow Wow Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

PS: For members of the Northern Georgia QRP Club that's "Dawgs"

At 20:55 8/26/96 -0700, you wrote:

>Gang,
>I've had a constant background of power-line noise for many months.
>Almost grew to accept it!
>
>The other day, while walking my dog, I noticed an arcing sound.
>72, Dave, W6EMD
>
>
>

Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com
Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [3260] Re: Power-Line Noise Eliminated

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.691231180658.1253B-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Hi Bob,

You're right, my dog probably heard the corona every time we went by that pole, so she was used to it!

72, Dave, W6EMD

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996

From: duane <duane@flinet.com>

Subject: [3263] Re: Power-Line Noise Eliminated

Message-ID: <3223B3C3.6BC5@flinet.com>

David D. Meacham wrote:

>

> Gang,

> I've had a constant background of power-line noise for many months.

> Almost grew to accept it!

>

> The other day, while walking my dog, I noticed an arcing sound. (I'm a
> little sensitive to that noise, having worked with high-voltage circuits
> for quit a few years...modulators, pulse transformers, etc.) I looked
> around and there was a power pole! I cocked my best ear & turned my head,
> zeroing in on the sound. Turned out it was coming from the top of the
> pole where 3 power-factor-correction capacitors and 4 little transformers
> were mounted! Wow! Corona, in spades. Let's see now, about 2 blocks from
> my house...could it be??? Nawww. Maybe? Well, I resolved to call P.G.&E.
> the next morning.

>

> I called the emergency number & said it wasn't a real emergency, but "one
> of your poles has a loud arcing sound..." Also told them I was an
> Engineer.

>

> ONE DAY LATER THE NOISE WAS G O N E !

>

> Now, other than occasional buzzes, all I hear on 80m is atmospheric noise!
> Happy Days! My noise floor dropped about 8dB. The moral is: If you have
> power-line noise, just walk around your neighborhood and listen for corona
> (arcing noise). If you can identify the offending pole (as I did) it may
> help a LOT when you call the power company.

>

> 72, Dave, W6EMD

Hi Dave, I had an experience somewhat like yours. I was trying to work 40 meters and I would get a loud 20 over 9 hash type of noise it would last about 10 minutes then go away only to return about 30 - 45 min. later. Well I have a transformer on a pole in my back yard and suspected

it might be coming from there. I checked the ground coming from the pole and all seemed well. I beat the pole with a large hammer incase there was corrosion at the top (tried to jar it a little) no luck this went on for about 2 months. then one night (about 2 am) I walked out into my backyard to get something from my shed and noticed a street light just coming on. the noise was 20 over 9 on my radio. after the light lit up I checked my radio and the noise was gone. then it came back again about 40 min. later. I went back out side and the light on the pole was starting up again. So if you should have a problem like this check the local area street lights. I called the power company and had the light repaired and no more problems. By the way the transformer has never caused me any problems I guess the beating I gave it was for good measure.

duane <http://www.flinet.com/~duane> AB4BE

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: jim_kc1fb@usa.pipeline.com (Jim Francoeur KC1FB)
Subject: [3234] Re: Sun's poles flip?
Message-ID: <199608271524.PAA12443@pipe5.t2.usa.pipeline.com>

Mark,

Just a thought, since the CWA Post Office is
sort of Boyd's baby...you should clear it with him.

My E-Mail address, and Mike's are easier to reach on the wiltek.com
Exchange host as:

jfrancoeur@wiltek.com
and
mapapacoda@wiltek.com

Cheers,

Jim

On Aug 27, 1996 09:13:56, 'Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>' wrote:

>
>This may or may not be directly related to QRP.
>
>There is a rumor that the sun is going to flip it's poles over the next 4
>years.

>
>Is it true?
>Will it affect propogation?
>If so, how?
>Should I change the orientation of my antennas? Will life as we know it
>continue?
>Can I make a killing in re-oriented SPF?
>
>
>===== 7.3 de
Michael
>AA0UB miker@cc.com michael@frii.com
><http://www.frii.com/~michael>
>QRP-L #126 Norcal #857 CQC #180
>=====

--

Jim Francoeur KC1FB, QRP-L #29

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: "Chris J. Cartwright - ELF" <dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil>
Subject: [3235] Re: Sun's poles flip?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608271110.A12273-0100000@imc220>

On Tue, 27 Aug 1996, Mike Robinson wrote:

> There is a rumor that the sun is going to flip
> it's poles over the next 4 years.

Does this mean Coppertone will have to rate suntan lotions with a
negative SPF? SPF -10, SPF -25? And will our tans just fade away? =>

Sorry, just couldn't help myself. Lack of sleep or something.

-- Christopher Cartwright, Tech. Engineer		...our chief weapons are fear,
-- Voice 301.295.0809 N3XRV		fear and surprise, and nice
-- Mail dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil		red uniforms, oh damn!!
-- ccart@erols.com		-- Monty Python

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: jgann@mindspring.com (Alvin G. Gann)
Subject: [3255] Re: Sun's poles flip?
Message-ID: <199608280047.UAA03000@borg.mindspring.com>

.....
>There is a rumor that the sun is going to flip
>it's poles over the next 4 years.
>
>Is it true?

As I remember, the sun reverses its magnetic polarity every 11 years. The sun spot cycle is actually a 22 year cycle consisting of two maxima with the magnetic field reversed.

>Will it affect propagation?

Probably not.

>If so, how?
>Should I change the orientation of my antennas?

You might try turning them upside down.

>Will life as we know it continue?
>Can I make a killing in re-oriented SPF?

I think everyone will be OK if you squeeze your sun-screen from the bottom of the tube.

72 --Jerry W1UI
.....

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [3242] Re: T2FD, etc.
Message-ID: <960827143703.2020ccd8@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

Whew, I remeber reading about the old CQ mags when I was a young novice back in the early 60's. Then about 10 years ago our radio club used one of the B&W incarnation that was mentioned here on this list. Our results were less than stellar. As has been described, it uses a large resistor to absorb reflected power - I think it absorbs lots of the forward power, too! Using a Yaecomwood at about 100 watts was like running QRP into an efficient antenna.

For those who want more than apocryphal info, (Dr.) John Belrose VE2CN (?) wrote up his analysis in QST a couple of years back. It was in the Technical

correspondance section and showed that over 3-30 MHz it had at best something like 6 dB loss over a single frequency dipole.

I certainly would not recommend it at QRP levels.

Kinda like the Maxcomm antenna "tuners" that QST debunked a couple of years back in a review column. Some large dummy loads that give you reat SWR, but not much signal! Do they still run ads in CQ?

Caveat emptor. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996

From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>

Subject: [3244] Re: T2FD, etc.

Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.841171898.2430.myers@bigboy>

Joe, N2CX, wrote:

> Kinda like the Maxcomm antenna "tuners" that QST debunked a couple of years
> back in a review column. Some large dummy loads that give you reat SWR, but
> not much signal! Do they still run ads in CQ?

Actually, the Maxcomm 'tuner' only really 'worked' because of the reason that QRP works - it doesn't take a lot of power when conditions are good.

So, users of the Maxcomm device were unwittingly running QRP, right?

;-)

Dana KK6JQ

Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996

From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>

Subject: [3263] Re: T2FD, etc.

Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.960827222234.22464C-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Joe,

You are correct. The antennas with resistive components to swamp out SWR are very much less efficient than virtually any "normal" antenna. It does not matter whether the arrangement is a folded dipole with a resistor near 300 ohms or a standard dipole with a resistor near 50 ohms. The amount of power that is radiated will be proportional to the ratio of the swamping resistor and the impedance that the antenna sees at a given frequency without the resistor in accord with standard parallel impedance calculations. This applies equally to incoming and outgoing signals.

The losses will vary with the impedance of the antenna, which will differ on each band (apart from the swamping resistor). Where power is of little concern, as in military applications, the losses are not too significant. However, for QRP work, the losses can be very significant (depending upon one's circumstances). If you have a natural impedance of 50 ohms and a swamping resistor in this vicinity, then you will get a net 25 ohm impedance, a 2:1 SWR, and one half of your power converted to heat. That is a 3 dB loss, like cutting your power from 2 watts to 1 watt, and received signals will be half an S-unit down. That is livable. However, consider antenna impedances of a few hundred ohms in parallel with a 50 ohm resistor and calculate how much power is heat and how much signals may be down. The degree of difference, of course, can only be determined if you can also have an unswamped antenna of similar proportions side-by-side for the comparison. Like so many other cases, the antenna may seem fine if no comparison is possible.

For most (but probably not all) QRP situations, a dipole with parallel feeders and an ATU is likely to be more efficient as an all band antenna--and likely cheaper in the long run.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Tue Aug 27 23:13:38 1996
From: Brian Dockter <brian@nds.com>
Subject: [3256] Re: Wal-mart/batteries
Message-ID: <96Aug27.175123pdt.171785-219+233@rainier.nds.com>

On Aug 24, 3:15pm, john andrews wrote:

> Subject: Wal-mart/batteries

>

> Found the following in Wal-Mart-

>

> "12 volt d.c. rechargeable Handy Power System- Multi-volt with

> diagnostic LED display"

> *Built in light

> *3/6/9 volt taps with barrel-type female outlets.

> *2ea 12volt "cigar lighter" type outlets

> *fused out/inputs

> *No "wall wart" type recharger supplied, but can be recharged while
> operating vehicle. AC charger extra.

Make sure that the "wall wart" you get will put out at least 13.8V. This beast
won't fully charge on much less.

> *Not stated but implied that this is a gell cell or possibly sealed
> lead/acid battery @ 4Ah.

I've had mine open and checked. It has two 6V gel cells (does this void
my warranty? :-).

Don't forget the built in power switch. It is sometimes handy to switch
things off at the battery instead of the "toy".

Brian

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